

**A LIFETIME OF
VOLUNTEERING
JVN AWARDS 2025**

SUNDAY, 11 JANUARY 2026



Charity no. 1130719

**JEWISH
News**

Media Partner



VINTAGE

The Vintage Group of Companies is proud to be associated with JVN.

At a time when we are witnessing an increasing strain on social services, it's imperative that companies step up to the plate by encouraging their staff, many of whom now work from home, to interact with others more frequently by engaging with those who are either financially or socially disadvantaged. Our experience in supporting these projects has resulted in a mutually beneficial experience for our employees and recipients alike, and was welcomed by those who experience loneliness, as well as assisting those with disabilities, enabling them to integrate more closely with those who are able-bodied.

JVN was built on principles that embrace a society rather than a restricted audience.

The staff at Vintage have volunteered in soup kitchens in the East End and helped the elderly attending a Christmas show at the Chickenshed Theatre. Volunteering on a group basis is not only highly therapeutic for the participants, but it enables charities to punch above their weight, as they do not need to incur additional staffing costs, particularly at a time when there is a strain on their financial resources.

We would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to all those recognised today for their efforts.

Many operate quietly behind the scenes and are the true unsung heroes of our community. The only thing about JVN that isn't voluntary is that it is an essential part of our commitment to the wider community, demonstrating true Jewish values for the benefit of wider society.

To the team at JVN, so ably led by Nicky Goldman, we wish you continued success in all your endeavours and hope that volunteers and staff alike enjoy a wonderful afternoon of celebration and pride.

Warmest wishes,
Geoffrey Hartnell
Executive Director

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CLIVE NATHAN

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES



It is a privilege to write this as Chair of JVN having taken over from Daniel in April. I want to begin by thanking Daniel Levy for his outstanding leadership and the legacy he leaves; one rooted in integrity, compassion and action. We are very lucky to have Daniel's ongoing wisdom in his role as President.

This year has tested us in ways we could never have imagined. The continuing events in Israel and the rise in antisemitism have been deeply painful. Yet in the face of fear and uncertainty our community has responded not with despair, but with action.

For more than 18 years JVN has proudly stood at the centre of Jewish volunteering in the UK. Our work is guided by three pillars: Connecting Volunteers - linking people with meaningful opportunities to make a difference. Supporting Charities - helping organisations meet growing demands and deliver vital services. Promoting and Celebrating Volunteering - inspiring participation and honouring those who give their time.

These pillars are not just strategy, they are the heartbeat of our community. This year we have expanded our reach, deepened partnerships and connected many volunteers with charities across the UK. In Israel volunteering continues at unprecedented levels.

And here at home our volunteers have shown up again and again with courage, humility and heart.

As Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel said: "When I was young, I admired clever people. Now that I am old, I admire kind people." That sentiment has never felt more true.

Today we celebrate over 90 charity winners from 54 charities. But more than numbers, we celebrate impact. We honour those who choose to heal, to help and to build.

To our funders, our volunteers, our charity partners and the incredible JVN team; thank you. On behalf of the Trustees, I am deeply grateful for your commitment and proud to stand alongside you.

Let's keep going. Let's keep telling our story. And let's continue to lead with kindness, purpose and hope.

With heartfelt thanks

Clive Nathan

Chair Jewish Volunteering Network

DANIEL LEVY

JVN PRESIDENT

Dear all,

I was always taught when becoming Chair of an organisation that you should immediately look for a successor. I didn't. Possibly because I was too attached to the cause.

However, when the time came, I believe JVN and I were extremely lucky in finding what is a most definitely a strategic upgrade on me. I'm deeply grateful to Clive for taking on such an important role, as an emblem of our community and wider society as a whole.

I have been deeply involved in JVN for 10 years, and I have no intention of stepping away at any time soon. I believe in it now, possibly even more than when I first encountered this small organisation, with a big punch and impact way beyond its small size.

Regardless of JVN's leadership, it's the team that work day in, day out, at JVN, making connections, supporting our charities, and simply promoting volunteering. They are the underlying power that give us this punch. However, where would they be without our incredible community that

genuinely want to play their part and be given the opportunity to do so, in giving back to society?

I think all of us in this room know that our greatest gift, is that of giving our time and minds voluntarily. The impacts of this are simply immeasurable. May I take this opportunity to remind you, however, that science tells us that those that volunteer not only have 8-10 years more life expectancy, but lead more fulfilled and happy lives.

Every one of you in this room is an ambassador of that very thought. Not only in mind, but with your collective actions. Our challenge and your challenge, more than ever, is to spread the word, in order to heal what seems to be an ever-more fractured society.

So, my message to everyone is to keep on doing what you're doing, and let's invite more people to the party and together make the world a better place. Thank you to all - our supporters, our volunteers, our team and our charities. Thank you for allowing me to do what I do.

Kindest regards

Daniel



NICKY GOLDMAN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE, JVN

Welcome to JVN's annual Volunteering Awards ceremony. Thank you for joining us to celebrate the power of volunteering and its essential role in Jewish community life and in the wider charity sector. *"Volunteering is not the icing on the cake of society, it is a key ingredient of the cake itself"* says Dominic Pinkney, CEO Camden Volunteer Centre, Hammersmith and Fulham Volunteer Centre and Works4U. Rabbi Sacks writing about the Jewish community said, *"Our community could not exist for a day without its volunteers. They are the lifeblood of our organisations"*.

Volunteering is essential to life so throughout the year, as well as connecting volunteers to opportunities and supporting Volunteer Managers, JVN values volunteers, showcases their amazing impact and raises the profile of volunteering.

Each year at JVN's Awards, the Jewish community's celebration of volunteering, we celebrate those winners who have been chosen by their charity in four categories – Volunteer of the Year, Volunteer Team of the Year, Young Adult Volunteer of the Year and Lifetime Achievement. For the 2025 Awards, we have over 90 winners from 54 charities.

This year, for the first time, we are honouring especially this year's Lifetime Achievers' Award winners, from across 28 Jewish community and wider network charities. It is humbling to learn their stories.

All of you in the room recognise the power of volunteering. People volunteer for a multitude of reasons but what they share is the desire to give. The Lifetime Achievers have been giving for years and years. I can't add up the total number of years and the extraordinary impact they have made on the lives of countless people and organisations.

We are also celebrating today JVN's outstanding Life President, Ros Preston OBE. Ros has volunteered throughout her life in the Jewish community and in the wider sector and we are honoured that she has continued to be involved with JVN from the start.



I learned about volunteering and responsibility from my parents who were very involved in the Jewish community in Liverpool. I remember vividly sitting on the stairs watching my parents going out one evening and asking, "Do you have to go out again?" "We're not socialising," they said, "we are going to meetings, playing our part in the community."

I learned their lesson and got involved and I have been inspired through people like Ros, together with JVN legends, Judy Citron z"l, David Lazarus z"l, Leonie Lewis z"l, and Susan Winton to keep involved. Now I see it as my responsibility to engage others in volunteering.

So today, I would like to share the responsibility. Your story can inspire others. In 2026, reach out to one person to inspire them to volunteer, either in the organisation you are in or in the wider community. If each one of us reaches one other this year, that will be 350 more people volunteering by December 2026! And if you do, please tell us at nicky@jvn.org.uk – we would love to share your story!

Special thanks to our President, Daniel Levy, Chair of Trustees, Clive Nathan, Life President Rosalind Preston OBE and each of the JVN trustees for your dedication and commitment to volunteering and leadership for JVN. Congratulations and Mazal Tov to all the charity winners today. Thank you for all you do – you make a difference.

Nicky Goldman
Chief Executive, JVN

THANK YOU

We offer our sincere thanks to the people and organisations who have contributed to the JVN Lifetime of Volunteering Awards and the many others who support JVN.

- Daniel Levy for hosting the event
- Our Awards Ceremony Compère, Nigel Rothband
- Speakers: Dame Maureen Lipman, The Chief Rabbi, Sir Ephraim Mirvis and Rabbi Josh Levy
- The JVN Awards 2025 Steering Group: Karen Cooper, Dalia Cramer, Elissa Bayer, Gaby Lazarus and Max Sobell
- The Independent Judging Panel: Dame Mary Marsh, Rabbi Miriam Berger, Conrad Lennard, Howard Lewis, Michelle Rosenberg and Ashley Sweetland
- Our own JVN volunteers who support JVN all year round: Mike Boda, Rita Fischer and Stuart Clifton
- The Awards volunteers: Sabi Almasi, Margaret Bean, Gill Cohen, Shelley Davidson, Janet Elf, Noah Lazarus, Amanda Lee, Denise and David Lester, Es and Hilary Rosen and Debbie Simmons
- David Coleman for the JVN film
- Emma Ziff for the event photography
- Lauren Bragg and her team at The Grove
- Franklyn Gellnick for providing the musical entertainment
- Taryn Brett at CTB Creative for designing the brochure and marketing materials
- Harvey Samuels for the JVN Awards trophies
- Hendon Bagel Bakery for the food
- The Jewish News for being our Media Partner
- James Lovell and his team at SLA

A big thank you to the JVN Staff Team, whose dedication and hard work have brought this event to life.

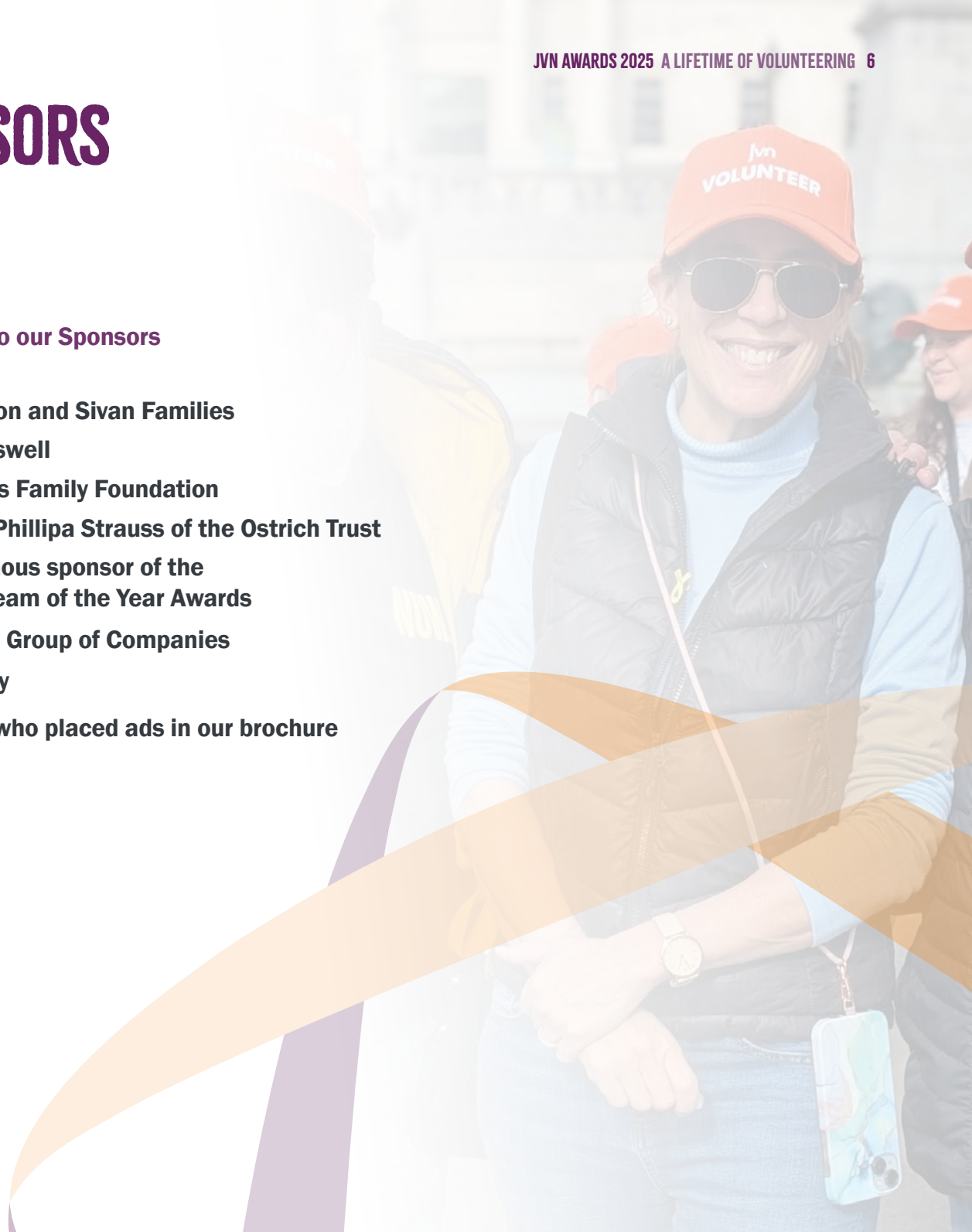
We also extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who submitted a volunteer, team, or trustee for a JVN Lifetime of Volunteering Award. Your commitment to valuing and recognising the incredible contributions of your volunteers allows us to celebrate their achievements together this afternoon.

SPONSORS

With Thanks to our Sponsors

- Citron, Sefton and Sivan Families
- Susan Cresswell
- The Edwards Family Foundation
- Jimmy and Phillipa Strauss of the Ostrich Trust
- Our anonymous sponsor of the Volunteer Team of the Year Awards
- The Vintage Group of Companies
- Wohl Legacy

and all those who placed ads in our brochure



JVN PRESIDENTS AND TRUSTEES



ROSALIND PRESTON OBE

LIFE PRESIDENT

Ros describes herself as a “professional volunteer” in the not-for-profit sector and has dedicated a major part of her life to volunteering. She has served as a Trustee of the J.C.Trust; President of the National Council of Women G.B.; Co-chair of the Inter Faith Network and a former Chair of Nightingale/Hammerson. Ros accepted the position as president of JVN because she believes that this organisation serves the best interests of both individual volunteers and charities across the community.



DANIEL LEVY

PRESIDENT

Daniel Levy is Co-Chairman of The Grove Hotel and Luxury Family Hotels.

He has been actively involved in philanthropy for around 40 years, primarily as a long-standing board member and campaign chairman of UJIA, as part of the founding trustees of Jewish Continuity and a board member of MDA. Daniel is currently Chair of the Board of Governors at Immanuel College. As well being a trustee since 2015, Daniel became Chair in 2021 and has recently become JVN President.

Daniel is truly passionate about volunteering, the development of youth and engagement within our community and across communities.



CLIVE NATHAN

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Clive has been in insurance all his career (although he did run a market stall to get him through university). He is currently CEO of Underwriting at Brown & Brown (Europe).

Clive began his career in 1987 as a graduate entrant with Commercial Union, where he had a number of different roles. He joined AXA UK in 1999 as national broker director. Between 2006-2016 he was CEO of Towergate Underwriting, having joined the business in 2003 as a regional managing director.

Clive has worked with JVN in the past and was formerly a trustee of Leket UK. He is a Spurs fan and a keen cyclist and raises money for charities such as Kisharon Langdon and Alzheimer's Society through his two wheel adventures.

JVN TRUSTEES



JO COLEMAN

TRUSTEE

Jo is a Partner in the Charities Team of Womble Bond Dickinson in London, advising charities of all shapes and sizes on issues of charity law and governance. She is a former Chair of the Charity Law Association and former governor of JFS.

Jo has been involved with JVN for the last decade working with Lead (JLC) on the community trustee development programme.

She is proud to be a trustee of JVN, helping to support its vital work in our community and beyond.



KAREN COOPER

TRUSTEE

Karen now runs brand and research consultancy, Living Brands, after a career in management consultancy and advertising. She works with a wide range of commercial and not-for-profit clients helping them grow.

Karen has been volunteering for many years and is now delighted to help JVN increase its reach across the community and beyond.



ELI GAVENTA

TRUSTEE

Eli Gaventa is the Director of Strategic Operations at UJIA where he works to support a more sustainable, efficient and impactful organisation. He has a Master's in Voluntary Sector Management and Grantmaking from Bayes Business School's Centre for Charity Effectiveness. Eli is a youth worker at heart and has over 15 years of experience working with young Jewish people in the UK and Europe.

Eli is a passionate believer in the empowering effect of volunteering and giving back to your community and society. In addition to roles at the United Synagogue, Bnei Akiva and Sinai Youth he has volunteered with Limmud, New Israel Fund, Tzedek and the Union of Jewish Students.

JVN TRUSTEES



DEBRA MORRIS

FINANCE TRUSTEE

Debra Morris FCA is our Finance Trustee. She runs her own consultancy, providing quality accounting support and services to smaller businesses and charities.

Debra began her career at BDO Stoy Hayward progressing to working in industry.

She formerly held positions as a trustee for Mitzvah Day and Jewish Womens Aid.

Debra describes herself as a committed community volunteer (she was the first female chair of Woodside Park Synagogue) and is currently the lead volunteer for 20th Finchley Scout group.



MAX SOBELL

TRUSTEE

Max Sobell is Head of CRM for Ocado Retail, the UK's leading online grocer. He has worked in digital transformation and marketing throughout his career across a number of consumer brands.

Outside of work, he is passionate about volunteering and youth empowerment, having been a voluntary youth leader for many years and currently is a Foundation Governor at his kids' primary school.



RICHARD WERTH

TRUSTEE

Richard Werth FCA was Chief Executive of Banner Homes, a house builder, until the company was sold in 2014. He subsequently set up a new house builder called Troy Homes building high quality homes in the South East of England.

Previously Richard was a Governor of Immanuel College, stepping down after over 10 years, having been treasurer and Chair of its Property Group as well as Deputy Chairman. He has also been a director of NHBC, the largest warranty provider to new home owners. Richard joined the Board of JVN in December 2017.

ROBERT VOSS CBE CSTJ

HM LORD-LIEUTENANT OF HERTFORDSHIRE



I am delighted to support the Jewish Volunteering Network.

I greatly admire the wonderful work you do in support of the community in so many different ways and your involvement with a vast number of charities is truly inspirational. Charity is at the heart of our Jewish heritage and JVN exemplifies the outreach that the Jewish people have in the wider community.

As President or Patron of over 30 charities I am well aware of the vital role that charities play in the daily life of so many people locally, nationally and internationally. It is not only the financial support but the physical, moral and spiritual support that is so important and the time given by so many involved with JVN is to be applauded.

I look forward to joining you at The Grove and to meeting so many wonderful volunteers.

Wishing all the winners and those nominated a hearty Mazeltov and many congratulations.

Robert Voss CBE CSTJ

HM Lord-Lieutenant of Hertfordshire

THE CHIEF RABBI SIR EPHRAIM MIRVIS KBE





בס"ד

Office of The
CHIEF RABBI

November 2025
חשון תשפ"ו

Message from the Chief Rabbi

I am delighted to send my warmest greetings to everyone at the Jewish Volunteering Network on the occasion of your 2025 Volunteering Awards, which also marks 19 years since JVN's inception. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate not only the significant achievements of the award winners, but also the numerous volunteers across our community whose selfless efforts make a profound difference to countless lives.

Our Jewish tradition teaches us that responsibility — achrayut — is a fundamental Jewish value. It is our obligation to care for and support one another, especially in times of need. Over the years, JVN has been at the forefront of turning this sense of responsibility into action, creating so many wonderful opportunities for individuals to serve and make a difference.

In these challenging times, our community has shown its true strength through unity and support. JVN continues to provide a vital platform for people to come together and help, offering avenues for meaningful volunteering that truly reflect our values of care and compassion.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation to the entire team at JVN whose tireless efforts are a constant source of pride. Your work not only enhances the lives of those in need, but it also strengthens the fabric of our community, ensuring that we continue to thrive together.

May you continue to go from strength to strength and may the impact of your work continue to inspire and uplift all those you serve.



Chief Rabbi Sir Ephraim Mirvis KBE



RABBI JOSH LEVY AND RABBI CHARLEY BAGINSKY

CO-LEADS OF PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM



On behalf of Progressive Judaism in the UK and Ireland, we are delighted to support the Jewish Volunteering Network's Lifetime of Volunteering Awards 2025.

These awards shine a light on the extraordinary individuals and teams who dedicate themselves to helping others.

From those just beginning their volunteering journey to those who have devoted a lifetime of service, the Awards recognise and celebrate the remarkable contributions made to charities, communities, and the wider world.

JVN's work connects volunteers with opportunities to make a tangible difference, fostering a culture of giving, kindness, and responsibility across our Jewish community. Through their support, training, and promotion of volunteering, JVN creates spaces where generosity, skill, and compassion come together to benefit everyone.

The Awards themselves – whether for Volunteer of the

Year, Volunteer Team of the Year, Young Adult Volunteer of the Year, or the very special Lifetime Achievement Award – showcase the inspiring power of people coming together to make change happen. They remind us that even small acts of service can have lasting impact and that each volunteer plays a vital role in strengthening our community.

Beyond the formal recognition, it is the everyday commitment, dedication, and empathy of volunteers that truly transforms lives. Each act of giving, whether supporting a neighbour, mentoring a young person, or lending time to a charitable cause, builds connections, nurtures hope, and strengthens the bonds that make our community resilient and caring.

We are proud to celebrate the volunteers honoured by JVN and to recognise the incredible work of this organisation in championing service, kindness, and community spirit across the UK Jewish community.

Rabbi Josh Levy and Rabbi Charley Baginsky
Co-Leads, Progressive Judaism

THE RT. HON. KEIR STARMER KCB KC MP

PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

I am delighted to send a message of support and congratulations for the Jewish Volunteering Network's (JVN) Lifetime of Volunteering Awards 2025.

I want to take the opportunity to express my personal gratitude to everyone at JVN who work tirelessly to bring volunteers and charities together. I appreciate the positive impact your work is having by engaging and supporting volunteering across the country. I would also like to extend my congratulations to all the nominees and winners of these awards. Thank you for your dedication and extraordinary contributions.

I recognise what a difficult period this has been for our Jewish communities, but I stand with you all. Jewish culture and achievement make a vital contribution to modern Britain – across the arts, science, business, public service and politics. Our society is enriched by the values, the leadership and the work of our Jewish communities.

I wish you the best for the awards and every success for the year ahead and Mazel Tov to all those nominated!

All best wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Keir Starmer".

THE RT HON KEMI BADENOCH MP

LEADER OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY



The Rt Hon Kemi Badenoch MP
Leader of the Conservative Party



I am honoured to send my heartfelt congratulations to everyone being recognised at the Jewish Volunteering Network's Annual Awards. These awards shine a light on extraordinary individuals and teams whose service underpins the very foundations of community life.

Volunteering is not just a helpful add-on. It is a pillar of a strong and compassionate society. This year I have visited synagogues, community organisations, and Jewish schools across Britain, and I have seen first-hand the warmth, solidarity and humanity that volunteers bring to Jewish life. I have also seen how the threat of rising antisemitism and the shock of the appalling attack at Heaton Park is felt across our nation. I am proud to stand with you in opposing antisemitism.

At such a time, your work becomes all the more vital. By standing together, supporting each other, and continuing to offer kindness and care, you demonstrate exactly what Britain should stand for.

To all tonight's nominees, and to all those whose efforts go unseen, thank you. Your dedication makes our country stronger and more united. I wish you a wonderful celebration and every success in the year ahead.

Best Wishes,

Rt Hon Kemi Badenoch MP
Leader of the Opposition

ROSALIND PRESTON OBE

THE PROFESSIONAL VOLUNTEER

Born in 1935 in London's East End, Rosalind Preston OBE grew up in a close-knit Jewish family whose values of community, responsibility and compassion shaped the course of her life. Evacuated during the war and later educated at Talbot Heath School, Bournemouth, she learned early how to navigate between Jewish and wider society — an experience she credits with helping her build bridges throughout her later career in the voluntary sector.

After leaving school, Ros trained as a secretary and worked first in advertising and then in the family business. In her late teens she became active in the youth group at the West London Synagogue, where she helped fundraise for Magen David Adom. At just 17, enough money had been raised to buy an ambulance and together with 3 friends, she drove it to Israel. That journey cemented her lifelong commitment to Israel and to volunteering.

Ros married Ronald Preston in 1958 and, while raising Susan and Michael, sought new outlets for her energy and leadership. She joined the Mill Hill Aviv branch of WIZO in the early 1960s and soon became one of its most compelling and trusted speakers. Her expertise led to an invitation to join the World WIZO delegation to the UN Decade for Women Conference in Copenhagen and

subsequently with the League of Jewish Women to the 1985 meeting in Nairobi, an experience that broadened her understanding of global women's issues and exposed her to deep political hostility towards Israel. It was a turning point that strengthened her resolve to represent Jewish women on the international stage.

Throughout the 1980s Ros took on an expanding public role. She spoke widely for WIZO and The National Council of Women (NCW), which she joined in 1981. In 1988 she became NCW's President, organised a national conference on Women & Health and took a group of members on an exchange visit to Moscow.

In 1990 Ros was asked by then Chief Rabbi, Rabbi Jonathan Sacks z"l, to chair a significant review of the status and position of women in the UK Jewish community in the early 1990s. The initiative, officially known as the "Women in the Jewish Community" produced a report in 1994 with detailed recommendations aimed at improving women's status within the community. This important work was reviewed in 2008-9 and saw many positive changes in the fifteen years since the initial report.

In 1991 Ros became the first woman to be elected Vice-President of the Board of Deputies, serving until

1994. Her leadership extended across the voluntary sector: Chair of Nightingale House, Joint Honorary Secretary of the Council of Christians and Jews, trustee of the JC Trust, and — from 2000 to 2004 — Co-Chair of the Inter Faith Network UK. Her service was recognised with a Paul Harris Fellowship from Rotary International (1992) and she was awarded an OBE “For services to the voluntary sector” (1993).

Across every role, Ros has championed dialogue, equality, interfaith understanding and the power of community action. Her influence on national volunteering structures paved the way for organisations like JVN to thrive.

Today, Ros serves as Life President of the Jewish Volunteering Network. Her insight, generosity and unwavering belief in the value of volunteering have shaped JVN since our earliest years. Even at 90, she remains an active, thoughtful presence — a proud wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and a lifelong advocate for strengthening both the Jewish and wider communities.

JVN is honoured to celebrate Rosalind Preston OBE’s extraordinary lifetime of service. Her contribution has touched thousands, and her example continues to inspire volunteers across generations.



SUSAN WINTON

CO-FOUNDER, JVN



Ros was the first woman to be elected vice president of the Board of Deputies in 1991. The then new Chief Rabbi, Jonathan Sacks, asked Ros to chair the commission looking at Women in the Jewish Community: Review and Recommendations. One of the two authors of the report was our very own Judy Citron z”l (co-Founder of JVN). The report was published in 1994. When Judy asked Ros for a meeting nearly a decade later, she magnanimously agreed to meet us.

We had just moved into our very first work space in Edgware. I’ll never forget when Ros arrived looking so glamorous in our small dull excuse for an office.

But of course what was much more memorable than the juxtaposition of Ros’s immaculate beige trousers against our shabby headquarters, was her enthusiasm for our idea from the get go.

Judy and I couldn’t believe it. Ros was the queen of volunteering and she agreed there and then to be our champion - and for nearly twenty years, Ros’s commitment to JVN has never wavered.

Her professionalism is second to none - watching Ros chair a meeting is like taking a masterclass. But it’s been her dedication and clarity of our vision that I am so grateful for - and the way she continues to open her home and her heart to JVN after all these years.

Thank you, Ros

DANIELA GRUDSKY EKSTEIN

DEPUTY AMBASSADOR OF ISRAEL TO THE COURT OF ST JAMES'S



On the occasion of the tenth annual Jewish Volunteering Network's (JVN) Celebration of Volunteering Awards, I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers who give up so much of their time in selfless service to others in our community.

JVN does remarkable work in promoting, connecting and supporting volunteers across the entire Jewish community and beyond. They are absolutely right, therefore, to recognise the tireless efforts and inspiring sacrifices of so many volunteers who make an incredible difference daily. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate all those in particular who have been nominated for an award this year.

I would also like to thank JVN for their support with the event held in Trafalgar Square to commemorate the second anniversary of October 7th. Without such committed volunteers, our community would not have been able to commemorate this date in such a meaningful way.

I send my sincerest thanks for all that you do and I wish you the very best of luck as you continue to make a difference to other people's lives. Todah Rabah.

Daniela Grudsky Ekstein
Chargé d'Affaires of Israel to the Court of St James's

KEITH BLACK

CHAIR OF THE JEWISH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



As Chair of the Jewish Leadership Council, it is a privilege to support the Jewish Volunteering Network's Lifetime of Volunteering Awards 2025, celebrating the remarkable individuals and teams who give their time, energy, and compassion to help others.

Volunteers are the heart of our community. They strengthen our institutions, support those in need, and inspire others to act with kindness and purpose. Their commitment reminds us that positive change is driven by those who lead with a sense of responsibility to others.

I wish this year's award winners mazal tov, and thank every volunteer who continues to enrich, unite, and uplift our community.

PHIL ROSENBERG

PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DEPUTIES OF BRITISH JEWS



Volunteering lies at the heart of the Jewish communal experience. Supporting the work of our community's fantastic professionals, are many thousands of volunteers who both enrich and are enriched by volunteering for a massive range of causes. This work often just seems to "happen" - But of course that is not the case. Volunteers dedicate a massive amount of their time and energy to ensure that our incredible community is able to function on behalf of us all. Some of it is done privately and some is done in public but it is all critical to helping run "British Jewry PLC".

This has been a tough couple of years for global Jewry and the last few months have seen tragedy strike Manchester and Sydney. In both cases, it was volunteers who were supporting professionals in running the activities and it will be volunteers too who help people pick up the pieces of shattered lives. At the Board, we rely massively on volunteers to help us represent the community to wider British society and we are deeply appreciative all they do to help our community be resilient in the face of struggles and to celebrate the joys and privileges of being Jewish.

NIGEL ROTHBAND

COMPÈRE



Nigel Rothband has over thirty years' experience compèring awards ceremonies, corporate events and business conferences. He has built a reputation as an engaging and humorous after dinner speaker. Nigel regularly acts as a master of ceremonies at weddings and barmitzvahs.

For thirteen years Nigel hosted the weekly Man City Show Podcast and is regularly heard and seen on radio and TV discussing all things Manchester City. A season ticket holder, he follows City home and away.

He regularly interview authors at their book launches. Amongst others, he has interviewed; Sir Trevor McDonald, Clive Myrie, Andrew Lownie, Alan Johnson, Danny Cipriani, Wayne Barnes and Andy Wilman.

Away from the microphone, Nigel is a leadership coach, business mentor and facilitator working with teams across the globe. Recent clients are the leadership teams from Levi's, The FA, BritVic, Mars, B&Q, Zurich Insurance and First Bus.

A keen sportsman, Nigel has represented Great Britain at five Maccabiah Games. As an opening batsman he plays for Chorleywood Cricket Club, where he is Vice President, and also represents Hertfordshire in the Masters County Championship. He is a member of MCC. In the winter Nigel is an active football referee and is officiating in his 41st consecutive season on the Watford Sunday League.

Nigel has been involved with numerous charities over several decades. He is currently Chair of trustees of Long Covid Support who provide information, support and advocacy for people living with Long Covid.

Nigel and his wife Nicole recently set up the fundraising initiative 'Hosting For The Hungry' encouraging dinner hosts to ask their guests to pledge money to help alleviate hunger instead of receiving gifts.

Living in Bushey, Nicole and Nigel have been active members of Bushey United Synagogue for over thirty years and they have two grown up sons.

DAME MAUREEN LIPMAN

GUEST SPEAKER



Maureen Lipman left Hull in 1965 to train at Lamda. Among her films are: Up the Junction, Educating Rita and the Pianist. She spent three years in Olivier's Old Vic company, has appeared in over thirty West End plays and four one-person shows including Re Joyce and Rose. She has starred in sitcoms, Agony, Agony Again and Ladies of Letters and her own series of plays, About Face, as well as the award winning TV plays of her late husband Jack Rosenthal, Alan Ayckbourn, Alan Bennett and Alan Plater.

She has also filmed reality and travel documentaries, such as Memory, DNA Journey, Art Deco, Style and Celebrity Gogglebox. For the past six years she has shouted at everyone in Coronation Street as the battleaxe Evelyn Plummer, winning best comedy award for four years running.

She has published 10 books of autobiography and cartoons and is the proud recipient of honorary Doctorates from the Universities of Hull, Salford, Sheffield and Tel Aviv. She was awarded a CBE in 1999 and a Damehood in 2020.

She has writer children, Amy and Adam Rosenthal and the grandchildren (geniuses naturally) Ava, 13 and Sacha 10 are budding poets and painters.

DAME MARY MARSH

CHAIR OF THE JUDGING PANEL

CELEBRATING THE COMMITMENT TO VOLUNTEERING AT THE JVN AWARDS 2025

My journey of engaging with the incredible volunteering across the Jewish community began over 15 years ago, when I was introduced to JVN through the Pears Foundation. It was suggested that I might be able to help with the first round of the JVN Awards.

The whole idea of the Awards, and their early development, was Leonie Lewis' inspired initiative. We continue to give thanks to Leonie, and to many others, as the Awards she created have continued to grow from strength to strength. This has led to the wonderful annual celebration that we share this afternoon.

Each round of the Awards, I am struck by the variety of organisations in the community and their very committed volunteers. Many have been giving their time for years, even decades, and a significant number for a lifetime. The contexts in which you are all working, and the needs to be met, have become increasingly challenging in so many ways.

We have been fortunate to have a strong group of volunteers joining me as judges each year. I am pleased to continue to be asked by Nicky Goldman to serve as Chair of the Judging Panel. Once again, our judges have

been wise and insightful, giving generously of their time to review submissions and then to meet for what can be a long evening together to agree the outstanding winners.

The submissions have also grown stronger. It greatly helps the judges to review each one fairly when the submission is fully completed, allowing us to assess it against the set criteria. My thanks go to the judges and to all those who take the time to compile and submit their charities' submissions. It is valuable for every charity to have its nominees recognised as winners, whether as individuals or as teams, in addition to the outstanding JVN Award winners announced on the night.

This year, we received so many strong Lifetime Award submissions that the only fair way forward was to present each charity winner with a well-deserved award, and to celebrate them all together.

My thanks to you all for including me in your valuable work.

I am very pleased to be able to join in your celebrations for the JVN Awards once again.



INDEPENDENT JUDGING PANEL



DAME MARY MARSH

Dame Mary is a cross-sector leader and non-executive director/trustee with engagement and achievements in a diversity of contexts. She has chaired the Independent Judging Panel for the JVN awards since 2009. She is currently a Director on the Board of the LSO (London Symphony Orchestra), Chair of the LSO Discovery Advisory Committee, Chair of Memo Portland and a Trustee of the British Spanish Society. She is a Patron of both the Institute of Imagination and the EY Foundation.

In recent years she has been a Trustee of Teach First, a non-executive director of HSBC Bank plc, a member of the Governing Body at London Business School and the independent Chair of the Board of Trustees at the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health. Following the earlier stages of her life journey as a teacher, including as a headteacher of two comprehensive schools in the 1990s, latterly Holland Park School, she was Chief Executive of the children's charity NSPCC and Founding Director of Clore Social Leadership.



RABBI MIRIAM BERGER

Miriam is the founder and CEO of Wellspring, a unique environment within British Jewry which combines ritual and mental wellbeing. Wellspring aims to help people find acceptance with their life as it is and supports them in creating personalised mikveh based ceremonies to mark moments of transition in life. She is continuing the work of the ancient rabbis who created meaningful ritual for the milestones they witnessed.

Miriam was recently appointed Rabbi Emerita after 18 years at Finchley Reform Synagogue where she doubled the size of the community and made FRS a flagship synagogue of the Reform Movement. Her creativity and innovation has led to pioneering achievements in education, prayer services and pastoral work as well as making headlines throughout the pandemic with novel ways of engaging her community whilst keeping them safe.



CONRAD LENNARD

Conrad Lennard is a senior sales leader at Mastercard, helping global businesses tackle financial crime and cyber risk through cutting-edge software solutions. Holding degrees from Durham and Cambridge, he blends professional expertise with a strong commitment to social impact and education.

Conrad is a volunteer football coach with Active Football, promoting inclusion and mentorship through sport. He also delivers Holocaust education talks to local schools as part of Finchley Reform Synagogue (FRS), helping students engage with history and empathy.

He advises Daring Capital, a social impact venture fund that backs bold entrepreneurs tackling systemic challenges through scalable, mission-driven businesses. His dedication to youth development includes mentoring through Future Frontiers, guiding students from disadvantaged backgrounds toward meaningful careers.



HOWARD LEWIS

Howard has for 60 years been volunteering for a diverse range of charities, with early involvement being centred on youth causes, including serving as a youth club leader, which resulted in his meeting and ultimately marrying Leonie, the first chief executive of JVN.

Following his retirement in March 2022 as the International lead partner of a top 10 firm of chartered accountants, he has furthered his involvement with many local and communal causes, as well as continuing to actively help the many charities supported by Leonie during her lifetime, which includes continuing her weekly collections on behalf of Community Connex, formerly Harrow Mencap. His involvement with this cause has been extended to helping in many other areas. He continues to jointly lead a group of volunteers that is a previous winner of the Outstanding Volunteer Team of the Year award.



MICHELLE ROSENBERG

Michelle has been Community Editor at Jewish News since October 2022. She has more than two decades of media experience, across PR, radio broadcasting and communications. She is the author of five women's history books and loves books, history and art.

Married with two teenage daughters, she trains regularly at a local boxing gym and enjoys walking in the woods with her two overweight spaniels.



ASHLEY SWEETLAND MBE

Ashley is Head of Global Corporate Affairs at Convatec, a global medical products and technologies company listed on the FTSE 100. Previously, he has held a variety of corporate affairs and strategic communications roles for organisations including IHG Hotels & Resorts and CBRE.

Ashley is a trustee of St John England (the parent charity of St John Ambulance) and Friends of HM Armed Forces Jewish Community. He has volunteered with Norwood since 2012, having been Co-Chair of Young Norwood between 2016-2018 and a judge for the annual Norwood Volunteering Awards since 2014. He has been a judge for the annual JVN Awards since 2019.

Ashley was awarded an MBE in 2012 in 2012 for services to young people.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

AJEX - THE JEWISH MILITARY ASSOCIATION

BENJAMIN SUSTER

The Best Volunteers Go Unnoticed - Ben Suster simply gets on with the job at AJEX Remembrance Events.



in to help wherever needed. Her commitment, positivity and genuine care for others embody the very best of volunteering.

AJR - THE ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES

PAULA HAMMOND

Paula Hammond has shown exceptional dedication and heart over 3 years of weekly visits, bringing joy, stability and purpose to someone living with dementia. Her commitment and compassion reflect the very best of what volunteering can achieve.



ECOJUDAISM

MICHELE BENN

Michele Benn, Environmental Impact Lead at Neve Shalom Synagogue Leicester demonstrates unwavering support for EcoJudaism's mission and is a true inspiration to us all.



GIFT

MYRIAM FEINER

Myriam Feiner is the quiet powerhouse of GIFT, serving faithfully each week with warmth and humility. Her steady kindness embodies the spirit of giving.



BRITISH EMUNAH

JEREMY LEIGHTON

For just over a year, Jeremy has been an indispensable part of our team — a reliable, tech-savvy volunteer who keeps our database running smoothly and tackles IT challenges with ease. His dedication, accuracy, and ambassadorial efforts have lifted pressure from the team and boosted our fundraising success.



JEWISH CARE

ANA BROIDER

At 94 years old, Ana Broider is a dedicated volunteer at the Memory Way and Elevenses Café, creating stimulating connections and a sense of community for people living with dementia and their family carers, based at Jewish Care's Michael Sobell Jewish Community Centre. Her warmth, empathy, and 10 years of service make her an inspiration and a truly deserving recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award.



CHAI CANCER CARE

JANE JACOBS

From the moment she joined, Jane has brought warmth, professionalism and kindness to every role she takes on. For the last 15 years, Jane has become an invaluable member of the Chai family - assisting on reception, supporting the Chai Art Workshop each week and always stepping



JEWISH WOMEN'S AID

DANA HOURI

A dedicated and skilled Treasurer, Dana has strengthened JWA's financial foundations, enabling the charity to better serve women and children affected by abuse. Her expertise, commitment, and passion make her an indispensable part of our mission.



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

JLGB

RON PRINCE

At 85 years young, Ron Prince is the heart of JLGB – a new volunteer who has transformed our community through his joy, energy and service. His story proves that the gift of volunteering goes both ways, and that it's never too late to start giving back.



JNETICS

ALAN COHEN

Alan is a wonderful, kind and compassionate volunteer. He has consistently supported Jnetics to do its vital, lifesaving work.



KISHARON LANGDON

JONATHAN KAYE

Jonathan is a cornerstone of the Kisharon Langdon community, always ready to support wherever he's needed. His genuine connections with our members bring comfort, joy, and a true sense of belonging to every event.



LAUDERDALE ROAD SYNAGOGUE — THE S&P SEPHARDI COMMUNITY

PAUL WELDON

Paul came to the S&P via the Jewish Volunteering Network. The office team greatly appreciate Paul's dedication, hard work and cheerful presence.



MAGEN DAVID ADOM UK

REVEREND MARK MADELEY

Reverend Mark Madeley co-led MDA UK's post-October 7th solidarity mission to Israel in 2024 which fostered dialogue and understanding, and allowed participants to offer solace to Israel by bearing witness.



MALKI FOUNDATION UK

WENDY PATER

Wendy is a kind, caring, and enthusiastic supporter who brings warmth and dedication to everything she does for the Malki Foundation UK. She's a true asset – always professional, reliable, and ready to help with any task, big or small.



NEW CITIZEN'S GATEWAY

HELEN STONE

Helen Stone has volunteered at NCG for over 12 years, inspiring and empowering refugees through her ESOL teaching and creative, supportive approach. Her commitment, guidance, and kindness have made a big difference to both learners and volunteers.



NIGHTINGALE HAMMERSON

HOWARD BLUMENTHAL

Howard's contribution to the life and religious support to our Residents over the past 12 years has been, and is, invaluable to so many. We are humbled by his contribution to our charity and his unwavering commitment and dedication to Rafi and all of our Residents.



NORTHWOOD & RUISLIP UNITED SYNAGOGUE

DAVID FRANKLIN

David is enthusiastic, vibrant and always available at all times with a smile!



NORWOOD

JULIE SONNENTHAL

Julie supported our Norwood resident to achieve his full potential on his first international cycle challenge.



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

ORT UK

DR SIMON NADEL

Dr. Simon Nadel is an inspiring and dedicated mentor on the ORT JUMP Mentoring Programme, generously volunteering his time to support Year 12 students in achieving their goals. His guidance, empathy, and lasting impact make him a truly deserving candidate for the Volunteer of the Year Award.



RESOURCE

COLIN BILKUS

We have chosen nominated Colin for his exceptional dedication, versatility, and positive impact on both clients and the charity. From volunteering a few hours a week to leading mock interviews and workshops, he has become an indispensable and inspiring part of the team.



ROYAL FREE CHARITY

MARTIN JACOBS

Martin's remarkable people skills and genuine willingness to help make a profound impact on our community. We're incredibly fortunate to have him on board. Thank you, Martin, for being such a beacon of light for all of us!



THE S&P SEPHARDI COMMUNITY

MICHAEL GREEN

Michael is a well deserving recipient of the Volunteer of the Year award, thinking outside of the box and doing whatever it takes for the good of the community,



THE LIBERAL JEWISH SYNAGOGUE

MICHAEL ROMAIN

Michael has been volunteering quietly, effectively and continuously for many years - supporting, initiating and leading a variety of important communal activities. His motivation for volunteering is profound and grounding - he plays a major role in increasing our members' wellbeing and spiritual growth and The LJS is incredibly grateful for his commitment to our community.



THE TOGETHER PLAN

GILLIAN GRUDER

Gillian Gruder has played a key role in transforming The Together Plan's Archive Services from a small idea into an internationally recognised project, creating new opportunities for volunteers and connecting people worldwide to their heritage. Her dedication, leadership, and unwavering commitment have made her an invaluable part of the charity's success.



WIZOUK

NAOMI GREENAWAY SAMUELS

Naomi continues to use her vast network of connections to benefit WIZO by putting on events appealing to other women in professional roles, helping to take WIZO forward by engaging a new audience.



VOLUNTEER TEAM OF THE YEAR

AJR — THE ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES AJR SCOTLAND VOLUNTEER TEAM



For many AJR members in Scotland, the Scotland Volunteer Team is AJR. Their contribution ensures that no Holocaust survivor or refugee in Scotland, wherever they reside, need be isolated or lonely. They belong to the AJR family.

BBYO BBYO SHORASHIM SENIOR TZEVE



The BBYO Shorashim Senior Tzevet are exceptional young leaders who planned and delivered a transformative summer camp for over 100 Jewish teens. Their creativity, professionalism, and peer-led leadership make them an inspiration for the wave of BBYO teens.

CAMP SIMCHA CAMP SIMCHA 'TOP' VOLUNTEER TEAM



The TOP (Time Off for Parents) Volunteer Group is a dedicated team of 10 compassionate individuals who provide vital respite, help and emotional support to parents with seriously ill children, offering them precious and vital time to rest, recharge or spend time with their other children. Through empathy, adaptability and even Animal Assisted Therapy sessions, they bring calm, joy and meaningful support into homes, transforming daily life for families who need it most.

CHAI CANCER CARE JEWELLERY WORKSHOP



The Chai Jewellery Workshop is a much-loved, weekly creative outlet for Chai clients, offering a therapeutic and uplifting space for self-expression and connection, led by dedicated volunteers.

GIFT CUPPA KINDNESS TEAM



The Cuppa Kindness team has created a warm, multi-generational community where everyone belongs. They have turned kindness into connection and purpose.

GOODS FOR GOOD TEAM LEWY - OUR EVERYDAY HEROES



The driving force behind many packing sessions, fundraising events and community outreach, making a lasting impact on the charity and the lives of those we support.

HELP 4 THE HOMELESS (LONDON & HOME COUNTIES)



FOOD & CLOTHING DISTRIBUTION TEAM

The Thursday night team at Help 4 the Homeless go above and beyond every week, supporting over 170 people on the streets of London with food, warmth, and compassion. Their unwavering commitment and teamwork make them the heartbeat of our charity.

HSFA (HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION) HSFA OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS



Two dedicated and committed volunteers. Always reliable.

JEWISH BEREAVEMENT COUNSELLING SERVICE VOLUNTEER JBKS COUNSELLORS



JBKS counsellors bring value to the community and to the organisation they serve, with exceptional dedication and positive impact on clients in need.

VOLUNTEER TEAM OF THE YEAR

JEWISH CARE

THE PITTALS

David and Danielle Pittal, our dynamic father-daughter duo, have transformed word games into fantastic social events at Vi & John Rubens House care home. Their dedication, warmth, and creativity bring joy, connection, and community to residents at their wonderful twice weekly sessions.



JEWISH DEAF ASSOCIATION

REDBRIDGE HEARING AID MAINTENANCE SERVICE

Enabling people living with hearing loss in Redbridge, to be part of the wider community. For consistently going above and beyond, this team has been chosen as Volunteer Team of the Year.



JEWISH WOMEN'S AID

JWA UNIVERSITY AMBASSADORS

JWA's University Ambassadors are a dynamic team of Jewish student leaders driving cultural change on campus through bold conversations, impactful events, and tireless advocacy. Their passion for promoting healthy relationships and tackling gender-based violence is creating a safer, more empowered student community.



JLGB

JLGB WINTER CAMP TEAM 2024/25

The JLGB Winter Camp Team 2024/25 reimagined Winter Camp at a brand-new site, delivering the largest and most ambitious camp in over 40 years. Their creativity, leadership, and unwavering commitment have transformed the experience for generations to come.



JTEEN

JTEEN LEVEL 2 VOLUNTEER COUNSELLORS

JTeen's Level 2 Volunteer Counsellors are a lifeline for teens in crisis, bravely answering late-night calls from young people who may



be suicidal, facing self-harm, abuse, or trauma, offering calm, care, and hope when it's needed most.

JW3

FAMILY VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR! JACOB & DOREEN

Grandmother and grandson duo Doreen and Jacob volunteer across every aspect of the Foodbank with exceptional dedication and teamwork. Their enthusiasm, reliability and genuine warmth make them an invaluable and much-loved part of our volunteer community.



KISHARON LANGDON

FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER TEAM

The Friday Night Dinner Team has transformed Friday nights into a vibrant, inclusive space where every member feels truly welcomed, valued, and connected! Their incredible dedication has re-engaged those once on the margins, building community, Jewish identity, and lasting friendships.



MANCHESTER JEWISH MUSEUM

MANCHESTER JEWISH MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS

Our dedicated volunteer team bring the museum to life every day, sharing their time, knowledge, and enthusiasm to create exceptional experiences for all visitors. Their commitment and teamwork are at the heart of everything we do.



MITZVAH DAY CHARITABLE TRUST

ALL MITZVAH DAY COORDINATORS

Mitzvah Day Project Coordinators deserve this award for their unwavering dedication, compassion, and leadership in bringing communities together through acts of kindness. Their selfless commitment embodies the true spirit of tikkun olam, chessed and tzedek, making a lasting difference year after year.



VOLUNTEER TEAM OF THE YEAR

NIGHTINGALE HAMMERSON SINGING GROUP, HAMMERSON HOUSE



This is a well-loved group that brings cheer and joy to our Residents. Their commitment to Nightingale Hammerson is unbreakable.

NORTHWOOD & RUISLIP UNITED SYNAGOGUE NRUS SCHOOL VISITS ENGAGEMENT TEAM



NRUS School Visits Engagement Team educates the future youth and combats Antisemitism.

NORWOOD SCHOOLS AMBASSADOR TEAM



The Schools Ambassador team volunteer to promote Norwood to the wider community by visiting schools to teach the children about inclusion, learning disabilities and neurodiversity.

THE LIBERAL JEWISH SYNAGOGUE THE BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP



The Bereavement Support Group offers emotional and spiritual support to bereaved individuals at a time in their lives when they feel bereft, vulnerable, isolated and lonely. Regular contact from the BSG volunteers provides comfort and community support extending beyond the first year of mourning, with values of compassion, companionship and empathy informing the group's work with our members.

THE S&P SEPHARDI COMMUNITY VESTMENT COMMITTEE



The Team's beautiful handiwork and creativity decorating the lulabim with ribbons created a particularly special atmosphere for the kahal at this very poignant time for Am Yisrael.

UJIA ISRAEL TOUR MADRICHIM 2025



This year 49 young leaders made an exceptional contribution to our community, showing extreme resilience and ideological commitment under incredibly challenging circumstance. They have ensured the future of Jewish community engagement by safeguarding a key rite of passage experience.

UNITED SYNAGOGUE US INCLUSION LEADS



The United Synagogue Inclusion Leads are transforming Jewish communal life by making physical spaces and experiences more accessible. Their grassroots leadership is driving lasting change in neurodiversity and physical accessibility across 56 communities.

VOLUNTEERS ON WHEELS BARNET ROAD MAINTENANCE TEAM FOR TARMAC KIER JOINT VENTURE (TKJV)



TKJV road maintenance team drive to make a difference to vulnerable people suffering food poverty or insecurity in Barnet.

WELLSPRING WELLSPRING TRUSTEES



Wellspring's founding trustees and experts have taken the nugget of an idea and brought a charity to life, using Jewish ritual to support people through moments of transition in their lives.

WIZOUK WIZOUK YOUNG PATRONS AND PROFESSIONALS



The WIZOUk Young Patrons and Professionals are part of the future of WIZOUk, ensuring younger people are encouraged to support the vital work that WIZO continues to do in Israel.

YOUNG ADULT VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

ABOARD CHARITY SHOPS

SAGHAR MOZAFAR



Saghar is committed to the team, feels part of the team and works hard to ensure that the budget is made whenever she is working in the shop. Often, she is the one volunteer that the shop can always rely on to turn up and be called upon to help at very short notice.

CHAI CANCER CARE

NATASHA SEITLER



Natasha Seitler has been a shining star within the Chai Family for the past five years. Starting from her university days in Birmingham, Chai has seen her grow from a passionate student volunteer to an active member of the Young Chai Committee and now to Chair of the newly launched Chai Young Professionals Committee. With her creative flair, Natasha has a natural ability to galvanise others and has successfully engaged a new generation of supporters.

GIFT

ISAAC LEIGH



Isaac is hardworking, kind, and reliable, always giving his time and energy to help GIFT. He truly represents the next generation of givers.

JEWISH CARE — JAMI

ADAM GROSS



Adam Gross is an inspiring young volunteer who has transformed his own experience of receiving mental health support into a lifelong commitment to helping others. As a Compeer Befriender for Jami, whose empathy, reliability, strength and compassion make him an incredible volunteer, he is an outstanding role model, and a true ambassador for Jami.

JEWISH WOMEN'S AID

LARA ISAACS



Lara is a passionate and long-standing volunteer who has helped amplify JWA's message around consent and survivor support. Her commitment and compassion make her an inspiring role model for young volunteers across the community.

JLGB

SAM STEINBERG



Sam Steinberg has dedicated over a decade to JLGB, rising from young musician to trustee while leading national programmes and safeguarding initiatives. His outstanding leadership, empathy, and professionalism make him a role model for the future of the voluntary sector.

KISHARON LANGDON

NATASHA LUSH



Natasha is a passionate young volunteer whose creativity and drive have sparked real change across our charity! Her leadership in creating accessible communication tools is transforming how we deliver truly person-centred care.

NIGHTINGALE HAMMERSON

KATHELEEN ARAUJO



Katheleen has been one of our standout young adult volunteers at Nightingale House this year. Her compassion, genuine good nature, generosity and proactivity have shone during her time with us.

PROJECT IMPACT

ALEXANDER ROGOFF



Alex is a dedicated and inspiring volunteer who has consistently given his time and commitment to the ImpACT Youth Kitchen. His hard work, encouragement of peers, and commitment beyond obligation make him an exemplary role model for the next generation.

TRIBE UK

BEN MORGANSTEIN



Ben spent two straight months on Tribe across 3 continents and 4 countries. His selfless dedication, round-the-clock care, and steady leadership underpinned the unforgettable memories created for all our participants.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

AJEX



CLIVE BOXER

Clive has spent a lifetime honouring and supporting Jewish men and women who have served in Britain's Armed Forces. A former national serviceman himself, he has been a much-valued part of AJEX for many years, taking on roles including Honorary Solicitor, vice chair and trustee, and helping to ensure the charity remains strong for the future. Clive also leads the UK Jewish Record of Honour Project, preserving the stories of 90,000 Jewish service personnel dating back to 1932. Now in his 90s, he is still actively involved, warmly guiding youth contingents at the annual AJEX Parade, visiting schools and community groups, and always ready to share his knowledge and experience.

ALL ABOARD SHOPS



HOWARD BRECKER

Howard has spent over 20 years giving his time to charities, with a particularly strong and long-standing connection to All Aboard. After joining the board in 2008 and later becoming Chair, he helped steer the charity through a time of real growth and change. Along the way, All Aboard expanded its retail network, strengthened how it worked behind the scenes, and welcomed new trustees who brought fresh skills and ideas. Together, this helped generate over £2 million for more than 100 UK charities. Alongside All Aboard, Howard has also volunteered with organisations including

Boys Town Jerusalem, the Royal Free Charity and the Fitzrovia Neighbourhood Association. Known for his generosity, energy and collaborative approach, he is hugely appreciated by those he works with and leaves a positive, lasting impact wherever he goes.

BOARD OF DEPUTIES



SHEILA GEWOLB

Sheila has given over 15 years of dedicated voluntary service to the Board of Deputies, representing and educating on behalf of the Jewish community across the UK. Since becoming a Deputy in 2009, and later serving as Senior Vice President, she has travelled widely to teach non-Jewish children about Judaism, often in areas with little or no Jewish presence. As Co-Chair of the Education Working Group, she has strengthened Jewish representation within national education bodies and championed the Jewish Living Experience Exhibition. Known for her warmth, clarity and enthusiasm, Sheila also mentors fellow Deputies and builds strong interfaith relationships, making her a highly respected and valued figure within the community.

BRITISH EMUNAH



CAMILLE COMPTON

Camille has devoted more than 30 years of voluntary service to British Emunah, helping to shape and strengthen the charity through her vision, creativity and commitment. As volunteer chairman from

2008–2012, she introduced the organisation's first CEO role and developed initiatives that continue to benefit vulnerable children today. Camille created the first Mother and Daughter trip to Israel for any UK charity and established a bi-yearly programme enabling at-risk children from Emunah's home in Afula to visit the UK and experience supportive host-family stays. She continues to volunteer her time, supporting events, producing key organisational materials and inspiring others through her compassion, enthusiasm and long-standing dedication to the charity.

CAMP SIMCHA



MEIR PLANCEY

For more than 30 years, Meir Plancey has dedicated himself to Camp Simcha, giving countless hours as a volunteer leader, mentor and advocate. He co-founded the charity to support families with a child facing cancer and went on to develop its services, fundraising and community reach before helping appoint its first CEO in 2005. Meir played a central role in expanding support to children with a wide range of serious illnesses, creating key programmes such as the first family retreat and developing volunteer training to ensure families received compassionate, consistent care. He continues to guide strategy, mentor trustees and offer direct support to families, remaining a constant and inspiring volunteer presence at the heart of the charity.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

CHAI CANCER CARE



SUSAN MALINS

A familiar and friendly face to so many, Susan has played a central role in Chai's volunteer team for more than two decades. She first offered her time on the Telephone Helpline and gradually took on a wide range of roles, from befriending and helping with shopping to, in recent years, welcoming everyone on Reception every Thursday. Susan brings warmth, kindness and quiet professionalism to everything she does, offering reassurance and comfort to clients and colleagues alike. Her reliability, care and many years of service have made her a much-loved and deeply valued part of the Chai community, with an impact that will be felt for years to come.

COVENTRY JEWISH REFORM SYNAGOGUE



IAN COHEN

For more than 25 years, Ian has been at the heart of the Coventry Jewish Reform Community. After arriving in the UK in 1994, he became deeply involved in community life, serving on the executive for nearly three decades and leading High Holy Day services for 24 years, as well as many Shabbat and festival services. Known for his care and inclusivity, Ian supports families through funerals, bar and bat mitzvahs and other life-cycle moments with empathy and sensitivity. Even after moving to Telford and while managing health challenges, he continues to

visit members, offer lifts, support proselytes and keep the community connected.

GIFT



DEBBIE SLYPER Z"l

Debbie devoted more than 20 years to volunteering with GIFT, becoming one of the most beloved figures in the Giving Kitchen. Known for her warmth, speed and reliability, she earned the affectionate title of "queen taper" and set a tone of kindness that shaped the whole environment. During the pandemic, Debbie was among the first to cook for families in need, inspiring many others — including her own children and grandchildren — to follow her example. She supported countless community projects, always offering her time with a smile. Though she has sadly passed away, Debbie's legacy of compassion, joy and unwavering dedication continues to inspire everyone who volunteers with GIFT.

HADASSAH UK



GUILDA SHAMASH

Guilda has given more than 20 years of her time and energy to Hadassah UK, serving as Chair, Trustee and Company Secretary, and playing a key role in shaping the organisation it is today. A warm and trusted ambassador, she has built lasting relationships with donors and volunteers, generously opening her home, hosting events and leading fundraising campaigns with care and conviction. Guilda has championed vital projects, including recent initiatives supporting

mental health and trauma care in Israel. Known for her humility and ability to bring people together, her contribution has strengthened Hadassah UK, enriched community life and helped improve healthcare for people of all backgrounds.

JEWISH CARE



RITA ROGERS

Rita has volunteered with Jewish Care for more than 20 years, becoming a much-loved and dependable presence across multiple services. Known for her kindness and personal touch, she gets to know members individually and brings warmth and encouragement to every activity she supports. Rita has volunteered in day centres, coordinated groups, assisted with transport and now plays a key role in the Singing for Memory group, where her energy and compassion help create uplifting sessions for participants. She is always willing to step in when needed and has even raised funds by crafting and selling hundreds of handmade stuffed animals. Rita's generosity, creativity and unwavering commitment continue to inspire staff, volunteers and members alike.

JEWISH CARE SCOTLAND



MAUREEN SOLOMONS

Maureen has been part of Jewish Care Scotland for 40 years, giving her time in ways both big and small. She began as a befriender and minibus driver, quietly supporting people who needed connection, and over the years went on to serve as Chair

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

of the Board and now Honorary President. In the 1990s, her leadership helped grow the volunteer team from just 16 people to more than 70, a period that led to the charity receiving the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. More recently, Maureen co-founded the Welcome Wednesday café, which now welcomes up to 50 people each week. She remains closely involved, recruiting, training and supporting volunteers and continuing to shape the heart of the community.

JEWISH FAMILY CENTRE

SANDY WEINBAUM

Sandy has spent more than 40 years supporting vulnerable children, young people and families, including 25 years at the heart of the Jewish Family Centre in Golders Green. She began with hands-on family support and went on to shape the centre into a trusted, go-to place for families in crisis — offering everything from parenting support and mediation to housing advocacy and emergency help. When the pandemic forced the centre to close its doors, Sandy led the way in reopening a new, purpose-built home for the service. Known for her deeply child-centred approach, she often goes far beyond her role, even opening her own home to those in need. Her warmth, determination and practical problem-solving have changed countless lives and left a lasting mark on the community.



JEWISH WOMEN'S AID

CAROLINE RATNER

Caroline's volunteer journey started in



her 20s on committees for charities. She joined Jewish Women's Aid in 2016 as a helpline volunteer. She has given exceptional voluntary service, progressing from frontline support to becoming Chair in 2020. Her deep empathy, strategic mindset and unwavering commitment guided the charity through some of its most challenging years, including the pandemic and a prolonged period without a permanent CEO. She took on extensive operational duties, strengthened governance, doubled income and played a central role in recruitment and public affairs, raising awareness of domestic abuse across the Jewish and wider communities. Caroline's journey from volunteer to national advocate has inspired colleagues, mentored new trustees and helped shape a more resilient, visible and impactful organisation.

JLGB

PAMELA LIVINGSTON

Pamela's relationship with JLGB spans more than sixty years and has shaped both the organisation and the Glasgow Jewish community in lasting ways. She first joined as a 14-year-old member and went on to give her time as an adult volunteer, leader and trusted mentor. At a moment when Glasgow JLGB was struggling, Pamela stepped in, rebuilding the group to over 100 young people and later leading the Glasgow Battalion and the Provincial Regiment. As a long-serving trustee, she helped establish JLGB's modern Israel Tour and has consistently nurtured new leaders. Even in her 70s, she returned from retirement to support



Glasgow Juniors, continuing to inspire generations with her warmth, energy and care.

JW3

SELINA GELLERT

Selina has been part of the JW3 Food-bank story since day one in 2020, and her volunteering has always been about much more than delivering food. Some weeks she's delivered up to 20 parcels across Camden, but she never rushes in and out. Selina always takes the time to check how people are really doing, offering kindness, reassurance and a listening ear — something that comes naturally thanks to her background as a GP. Often joined by her husband Andrew, she regularly steps in for extra deliveries and has been a steady, trusted presence throughout and long after the pandemic. Warm, dependable and endlessly positive, Selina truly embodies the spirit of JW3 and the care at the heart of the community. Outside of JW3, she has also supported NIF for more than 30 years.



KISHARON LANGDON

LISA SILVERBECK

Lisa has been an outstanding volunteer at Kisharon Langdon, helping to shape its inclusive, person-centred ethos through years of compassionate and creative service. She has organised meaningful activities such as Mitzvah Day, ensuring that supported-living members take leading roles, and has arranged informal outings that build confidence, independence



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

and joy. Her long-term befriending work is regarded as a model of best practice, defined by trust, respect and genuine connection. Lisa also supports children at Kisharon Noé School, contributing to a nurturing environment where every child feels valued. Her dedication and warmth have strengthened the charity's approach to community engagement and inspired others to volunteer with empathy and purpose.

MACCABI GB



DAVID WOLFF

David has been involved in grassroots football for nearly 60 years and has played a huge role in shaping Jewish football in the UK. After joining the Maccabi GB Southern Football League committee back in 1963, and becoming Chair in 1970, he helped grow the league from just 12 teams to a high of 66. Along the way, he's created opportunities for thousands of Jewish adults to play football, compete and feel part of a community. Known for his approachable style, David has always made time to support and mentor younger volunteers and to help other leagues thrive. As organiser of the Peter Morrison Trophy and a long-standing Maccabi GB ambassador, his energy, commitment and vision continue to leave a lasting mark.

NIGHTINGALE HAMMERSON



HILARY HALTER MBE

At 91, Hilary continues to be an inspiring

volunteer at Nightingale Hammerson and across several Jewish charities in London. For nearly 30 years, she has led reminiscence groups that bring history alive through postcards, artefacts, films and personal stories, creating joyful and meaningful sessions for Residents, including those living with dementia. Her warmth, humour and compassion encourage even the quietest participants to engage, and her dedication has made her a beloved presence among volunteers and staff. Hilary conceived and built the reminiscence programme herself, never missing a session and continually enriching it with her creativity. Awarded an MBE for her service, she remains a shining example of resilience, generosity and lifelong commitment to community.

NORWOOD



JACK MATTHEWS

Jack has spent more than 60 years lovingly preserving and sharing Norwood's history, and in doing so has become a much-admired presence among volunteers, staff and community groups. As Chair of the Norwood Old Scholars Association, he has supported former residents of the Norwood Orphanage for over three decades, helping them stay connected and ensuring their stories are remembered and valued. His passion has helped bring Norwood's past to life, from the installation of a Historic England blue plaque to the restoration of the original orphanage

fountain — lasting symbols of a shared heritage. Through talks across the Jewish and wider community, Jack has inspired many people to reconnect with Norwood's remarkable 230-year story and explore their own family histories. Now 87, he continues to give his time generously, reflecting Norwood's values of kindness, belonging, empowerment and respect.

ROYAL FREE CHARITY



VERONICA KENNARD

For more than 20 years, Veronica has given her time generously across education, community support and healthcare. She first became involved by coordinating employee volunteering at Rothschild, and for over two decades has been a familiar and caring presence reading with children in Tower Hamlets. Alongside this, she served as Chair of Governors at Old Palace Primary School, helping to guide and support the school community. During the pandemic, Veronica stepped forward at the Royal Free Charity, working in the PPE gown factory to help produce 50,000 gowns, before moving into the bereavement office where she supported families with great care and sensitivity. She now volunteers in oncology and palliative care, coordinating training for more than 100 staff. With over 1,000 hours of volunteering behind her, Veronica's warmth, resilience and generosity continue to make a real difference.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

THE S&P SEPHARDI COMMUNITY



ADAM MUSIKANT

Adam has given many years to supporting and enriching the spiritual life of the S&P Sephardi community in Maida Vale, generously sharing his musical gifts to bring people together through the melodies of the Spanish and Portuguese tradition. His singing helps create a sense of warmth and togetherness, allowing the congregation to feel connected to one another as well as to prayer and shared heritage. Adam regularly leads the kahal, particularly during the High Holy Days, when his voice helps steady and uplift the community at some of its most meaningful moments. Through his contribution, a treasured musical tradition is sustained and shared, strengthening the Lauderdale Road congregation and ensuring it continues to flourish for generations to come.

SUTTON AND DISTRICT SYNAGOGUE



PAUL SOLOMON

Paul has devoted more than 35 years to Sutton Synagogue, becoming the driving force behind its religious and communal life. Since moving from Glasgow in 1982, he has served in multiple voluntary roles, including Chairman, Financial Representative and Senior Warden, while also supporting interfaith and United

Synagogue committees. Beyond formal positions, Paul is the person who opens the building for contractors, assists with school visits, maintains traditions and regularly leads services, ensuring a minyan is sustained even in a small community. His knowledge of the shul's minhag, his willingness to modernise thoughtfully and his commitment to supporting members make him the "heart and soul" of Sutton. Paul also volunteers widely across Jewish and non-Jewish charities, embodying true community service.

THE BRITISH FRIENDS OF ZICHRON MENACHEM



ELI SELIGER

Eli has spent more than 20 years at the heart of Zichron Menachem, giving his time, energy and care to children and families facing childhood cancer. What began with helping to run a camp in 2002 grew into something extraordinary: in 2004, Eli founded British Friends of Zichron Menachem and has since played a central role in shaping the charity's work and reach. Through tireless fundraising and hands-on involvement, he has helped thousands of Israeli children and their families access comfort, joy and vital support during the most challenging times. From organising ten summer camps across the UK and Europe to creating respite programmes for parents, launching the hair donation

initiative and therapeutic spa, and building lasting international partnerships, Eli's warmth and vision shine through everything he does. Now Chair of Zichron Menachem International, he continues to bring people together around a shared commitment to care, hope and dignity.

THE LIBERAL JEWISH SYNAGOGUE



ALEX WEISS

For over 28 years, Alex has been at the heart of The LJS, volunteering across an exceptional range of roles that have made her one of the community's most knowledgeable, trusted and engaged members. From supporting the Religion School, Education Committee and Membership groups to playing a central part in Community Care, bereavement support and pastoral outreach, she has shaped the synagogue's volunteer networks with warmth, insight and complete dedication. A welcoming presence as a Greeter and Shabbat coffee volunteer, she also recruits and mentors others, helping them find roles where they can flourish. Through her deep understanding of congregants' needs and her unwavering commitment, Alex has become a cornerstone of community life and an inspiration to volunteers across The LJS.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

UJS



ADAM ROSE

Adam has spent more than 30 years giving his time, energy and expertise to Jewish student life and the wider community. He first got involved as a student leader in the 1980s, editing UJS's Aleph magazine, and later came back as a trustee, helping to modernise the organisation, support student officers and steer it through some challenging moments. Alongside this, Adam has served as a trustee of Masorti Judaism and the Jewish Youth Fund, where his legal knowledge and steady judgement have been invaluable. Known for his calm approach and generosity with his time, Adam has also provided pro bono support to families in crisis. His thoughtful leadership and quiet encouragement have helped strengthen organisations, support volunteers and build a more connected Jewish community.

UNITED SYNAGOGUE



SUSAN STARR

For more than 30 years, Susan has been at the heart of Stanmore Synagogue's care provision, creating one of the first structured community care systems within a United Synagogue shul. Her work shaped not only Stanmore but the entire US network: around 15 years ago, she co-founded United Synagogue Community

Cares, the model that later became US Chesed, now supporting 56 communities. At Stanmore, she coordinates befriending, bereavement support, social activities, financial assistance and major Chesed projects — while also cooking around 150 soups every fortnight for the US Foodbank. Known for her compassion, professionalism and tireless commitment, Susan has trained, guided and inspired countless volunteers, leaving a profound and lasting impact on communal care across the United Synagogue.

WIZO



RAE INGLEBY

Rae has been part of WIZO in South Manchester for more than 60 years, first joining the North Cheshire Young WIZO group back in 1962 and remaining a constant, much-loved presence ever since. Over the years she has worn many hats, eventually becoming Chair and helping the group gently adapt as its members grew older. Rae's home has always been at the heart of it all — hosting meetings, sewing, baking, embroidery and, more recently, Mahjong — all in support of WIZO's vital work in Israel. Her warmth, friendship and quiet determination have kept the group going when many others have struggled, and her lifelong involvement reflects a deep sense of community and care for women and children in Israel.

WORLD JEWISH RELIEF



FRANK MAXWELL

Frank has given many years to supporting charitable causes, with his heart firmly rooted in World Jewish Relief's Birmingham Committee. As Chair for the past decade — and a committed member for many years before that — he has brought energy, warmth and momentum to the local community, inspiring people to come together and raise tens of thousands of pounds for life-changing projects, including urgent home repairs for Ukrainians in crisis.

Known for his charm, enthusiasm and natural ability to connect people, Frank is always ready to support Jewish community organisations, alongside running a successful business. He is especially valued for the time he gives mentoring individuals and encouraging cooperation across communities. A true pillar of Jewish life in the West Midlands, Frank's generosity of spirit continues to strengthen World Jewish Relief's work and inspire those around him.

CHARITY WINNERS FROM SUBMITTING CHARITIES



JVN IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS

559 NEW
REGISTRATIONS

1082 APPLICATIONS

460 PLACEMENTS

51 CHARITY
PARTNERS

314 VOLUNTEER
ROLES POSTED

25 TRAINING EVENTS/
FORUMS/CONFERENCES

443 ATTENDEES

JVN SNAPSHOTS



"I look forward to joining my colleagues every week. My role has given me a new purpose"

EMMA, NORWOOD VOLUNTEER

"My path into volunteering was started and spearheaded by joining JVN and it was the most marvellous way of doing it."

RONA, NORTH LONDON HOSPICE VOLUNTEER



"If you have a purpose in life, that purpose should be not just for yourself and your family, but for others"

FRANK, WORLD JEWISH RELIEF



"I hope that G-d will bless me with many more years to be able to carry on doing this work for the community. I love doing it. I cherish the good moments."

SANDY, JEWISH FAMILY CENTRE

"We are so grateful to JVN for introducing us to wonderful volunteers who help us out as receptionists, volunteer drivers, and lend a helping hand at events."

GERRY, CHAI CANCER CARE NORTH

"If you have a purpose in life, that purpose should be not just for yourself and your family, but for others"

FRANK, WORLD JEWISH RELIEF

"When you volunteer, you'd be amazed at the people you meet, the friendships you form... You can't put a value on that!"

RUSSELL, JAMI VOLUNTEER



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THEIR COMMITMENT TO VOLUNTEERING IS
AN INSPIRATION TO US ALL.**

**THE LAZARUS FAMILY WISHES THIS EVENT EVERY
SUCCESS, ALWAYS REMEMBERING
DAVID LAZARUS Z”L WITH LOVE AND GRATITUDE.**



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LONG MAY THEY ALL CONTINUE.

We thank the dedicated leaders, staff and trustees of JVN for keeping alive Judy's dream by ensuring that JVN continues to play a central and indispensable role in the Jewish community's voluntary sector and thereby promoting the mitzvah of 'doing deeds of loving kindness' (gemilut hasadim).

With our very best wishes,
the Citron, Sefton and Sivan families.

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SUCCESSFUL YEAR

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Grateful thanks to every JVN volunteer for giving your time and congratulations to all the winners of every charity.



Always in our hearts, Leonie Lewis MBE z"l
from the Lewis family - London, Israel and USA



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at the
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Mazeltov to all those who have so deservedly won an award, from everyone at Woodford Forest United Synagogue.

We are a very friendly, welcoming community with a high percentage of volunteers, so we really do appreciate the hard work your winners have put in.

Best wishes from Rabbi & Rebbetzen Wollenberg, Rabbi Hill, the Honorary Officers and the Synagogue Council along with the whole community

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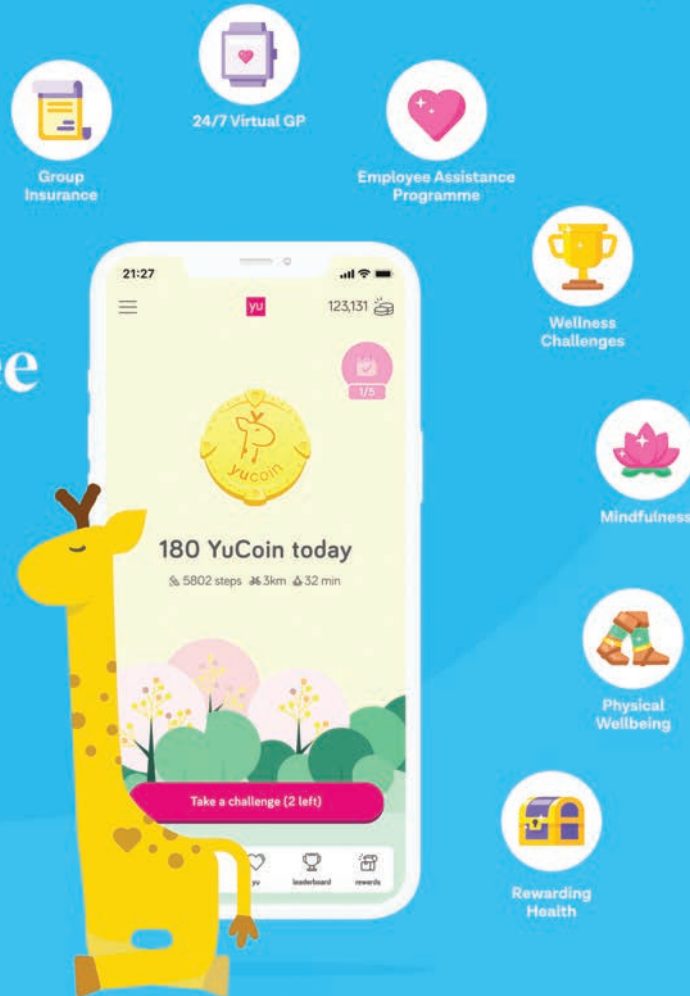


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FANTASTIC VOLUNTEERS FOR ALL THE
AMAZING WORK YOU DO!**

LARRY SHULMAN AND SARAH MILLER

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FRANKLYN GELLNICK



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